I disagree with Sinclair Broadcasting's recent decision to force their stations to air a documentary with an anti-John Kerry bias just days before the election.

This strong-arm tactic clearly illustrates the dangers of media consolidation.  $\,$ 

Public airwaves are free of charge to companies like Sinclair. Such use of the public medium is obligated by law to serve the public interest.

Our public airwaves should not be used to promote one political preference over another by any company. Such use of a public asset threatens the foundations of our democracy. Sinclair should not be allowed to force its stations to air a show with the aim of influencing the election—which an anti-Kerry show just before the election is clearly aiming to do.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them.

Thank you.